

Age, Residence and Signature Requirements to Run for Office

- ★ You must be at least 18 years old (*Representative in U.S. House of Representatives – 25 years old*).
- ★ You must be a registered voter in Massachusetts.
- ★ You must fulfill the residence and signature requirements below.

Office	Residence Requirements Prior to Date of Election	Signatures Required for Party Primaries Nomination Papers ¹
FOR FEDERAL OFFICE*		
U.S. Representative (25 years old)	United States citizen for 7 years, inhabitant of Massachusetts when elected	2,000

FOR STATE DISTRICT OFFICE

Governor's Councillor	5 years in Massachusetts	1,000
State Senator	5 years in Massachusetts inhabitant of district when elected	300
State Representative	one year in district	150

*ELECTORS OF PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR NON-PARTY CANDIDATES (including Unenrolled, Minor Party, or Political Designation) need 10,000 signatures. For information about running for President, see *How to Run for President in Massachusetts 2004*.

Office	Residence Requirements Prior to Date of Election	Signatures Required for Party Primaries Nomination Papers
FOR COUNTY OFFICE		
District Attorney ¹ (must be member of Massachusetts Bar)	resident in district	1,000
County Commissioner, ² or Franklin Council of Government Committee (except Berkshire, Essex, Hampden, Hampshire, Middlesex, Nantucket, Suffolk and Worcester Cty.s.)	(no requirement)	1,000 ^{3,4}
County Treasurer ¹ (except Barnstable, Berkshire, Essex, Franklin, Hampden, Hampshire, Nantucket, Suffolk and Worcester Cty.s.)	resident in district	1,000 ^{3,4}
Register of Deeds ¹	resident in district	1,000 ^{3,4}
Clerk of Courts ¹	(no requirement)	1,000 ^{3,4}
Register of Probate ¹	(no requirement)	1,000 ^{3,4}
Sheriff	(no requirement)	1,000 ^{3,4}

1. To fill vacancies only.
2. Not more than one commissioner may be elected from the same city or town in the county.
3. Dukes and Nantucket candidates for county office need only 25 signatures.
4. Barnstable, Berkshire, Franklin, Hampshire candidates for county office, except District Attorney, need only 500 signatures.